



1.  Enclosed is a copy of the prior patent application containing 24 pages of specification, 13 pages of claims, 1 page of abstract and 5 sheet(s) of drawings. Also enclosed are copies of the Declaration and any amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior application. (It is noted that no amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior application introduced new matter therein.)
  - The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
2.  Cancel original claims of this application before calculating the filing fee. (At least one original independent claim must be retained for filing purposes.)
3.  A preliminary amendment is enclosed. (Claims added by this amendment have been properly numbered consecutively beginning with the next number after the highest numbered original claim in the prior application.)
4.  Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph after the title:
 

This application is a continuation of application serial number 08/631,650, filed April 9, 1996. The application is incorporated herein by reference.
5.  Small entity status
  - a.  A small entity statement is enclosed.
  - b.  A small entity statement was filed in the prior non provisional application.
  - c.  is no longer claimed.

The filing fee is calculated below

<b>CLAIMS</b>				
	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Fee
<b>Total Claims</b>	12	0	X \$18.00	\$ 0
<b>Indep. Claims</b>	4	1	X \$80.00	\$ 80
<b>Multiply Dependent Claims</b>				\$ 0
			<b>Basic Fee</b>	<b>\$ 710</b>
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 790.00</b>

6.  Payment of fees
  - A check in the amount of \$790.00 is enclosed.
  - Please charge Deposit Account Number 50-1038.
  - Is deferred
7.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16-1.18 to Deposit Account Number 50-1038.
8.  The priority of application number , filed , is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119.
- A certified copy has been filed in prior application number , filed .
9.  The prior application is assigned of record to International Business Machines Corporation recorded at reel 7979 and frame 0604.
10.  This application is filed by fewer than all the inventor named in the prior application. Please delete the following inventors named in the prior nonprovisional application.

11.  An Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO 1449 and copies of citations are enclosed.

12.  New Correspondence Address

Altera Law Group  
6500 City West Parkway - Suite 100  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55344-7701

13.  Address all correspondence to David W. Lynch.

14.  A copy of the petition to extend the term in the prior application from March 22, 2001 to May 22, 2001 is enclosed.

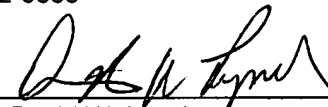
15.  Also enclosed:

16.  A return postcard is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC  
6500 City West Parkway, Suite 100  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55344-7701  
952-912-0539

Date: May 22, 2001

By:   
David W. Lynch  
Reg. No. 36,204

DWL/tmj